

Minutes

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

November 15, 2006

Board Members Present: Chairperson Lao Rubert, Carolina Justice Policy Center; Robin Odom, NC Department of Labor; Craig Brown, District Court Judge; Carolyn Titus, Deputy County Manager; Ann McKown, District Court Judge; Wes Crabtree, Office of the Sheriff; Kevin Hutchinson, Member At Large; Michael Nifong, District Attorney; Fredericka Carver, Member At Large; Antoinette Hilliard, Public Defender's Office; Kenneth Titus, Superior Court Judge; Marcia Owen, Victim Services; Gayle Harris, Public Health; Riley Butler, Community-Based Corrections Program

Board Members Absent: Lafonda General, Member At Large; Michael Page, Durham County Commissioner; Ellen Holliman, Mental Health; Joseph Anthony, Criminal Defense Attorney; Geoff Hathaway, Community Corrections;

Staff: Gudrun Parmer, Jo Iverson, Robin Heath, Jonie Coss

Guests: Conrad Strader, CJPP Coordinator, Rob Robinson, The Durham Center (sitting in for Ellen Holliman)

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Lao Rubert, members and guest introduced themselves. Lao welcomed everyone.

Lao presented August 16th minutes for approval. Minutes were approved.

Program Updates – Jo Iverson presented the monthly reports for July through October 2006. She stated the overall completion rate was at 26% and the DRC's completion rate was 18%. Judge Brown questioned why the numbers dropped. Gudrun stated she looked at all the terminated cases during this time period and saw many cases where the client never showed up for class. She stated the drop was a bigger problem with the SC program. There were a lot more absconders and technical probation violations in DRC and more cases were terminated by program staff in the SCP. Jo finished her report by summarizing program numbers for the STARR program, court screening, SA treatment and DTC.

Gudrun presented an annual outcome review report for CJPP. She stated the report had four program goals that were set by CJPP. The report included each measurable objective and the measured outcome. Gudrun mentioned the difficulty on measuring the outcome on the drug tests by explaining that IMS does not allow users to view drug tests on clients once they were closed from the system; therefore the average number of test per client is not available. Gudrun summarized the report by explaining each goal and its measure. She stated the objectives may change from one year to another.

Gudrun brought several concerns to the board. The first concern was the CBI class had not had any workbooks for six months and facilitators were making copies. Conrad stated he would check into it with DCC and make sure CJRC would receive them. The other concern was several cases were put in the SC program, but when the paperwork was received, they were actually court ordered to DRC. She stated DRC cases were not coming directly from court like they should. Robin

Heath explained the process and the problem of modifications getting to us. Conrad suggested they meet with Jeff Hathaway and get him involved in this process. Conrad pointed out that Durham had the largest vacancies of probation officers in their division and this could be part of the problem.

Gudrun invited the board to a Summit on Reentry on November 29th in Winston-Salem. The summit was planned and presented by the US Attorney for the Middle District of NC. She stated there was no cost to attend and if they were interested to please contact her.

Gudrun informed the board CJRC and the County's IT department started the process of developing a database for the agency. She was not sure how long the process would take.

She stated a supervisor had been hired for the Pretrial Program and he would start in early December.

Gudrun reported she and Jonie attended a workshop on confidentiality of records and learned a lot about subpoenas and court orders. She stated they also learned about client information and how it can or cannot be released.

Gudrun stated the Substance Abuse staff had a retreat and came back with new ideas about treatment. Gudrun explained Robin found a way to save CJRC money by purchasing bus tickets through Durham Tech for CJRC GED clients and it would only cost a fraction of what it used to cost through DATA.

Gudrun alerted the board about a performance series starting in January at CJRC. Some of the performances would focus on Reentry issues, e.g. how incarceration affects families. Gudrun invited the board to the first performance scheduled in January.

Gudrun informed the board the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) contract had yet to be approved. The contract between the County and the City for Project Restore had some minor details that needed to be worked out. The contract would go to City Council Dec 18th or the 1st council meeting in January for approval.

Judge Brown announced his resignation from the board since he will be presiding over Adult Drug Treatment Court beginning in December. He stated he would continue to attend board meetings when available. Lao commended Judge Brown for his 14 years on the board and all that he had done while serving on the board.

State CJPP Update – Conrad announced the State was getting ready to announce the reallocation of funds and he would send more information once he received it. He stated there would be a CJPP meeting on December 12th for drug testing. Lao requested that Conrad explain the different factors in the funding formula. Conrad briefly explained and broke down each percentage of the formula and how it applied to the counties. Lao suggested Gudrun should find out what the numbers would look like if DCC used regular probation instead of only intermediate probation cases. She stated it would be interesting to see whether there were significant differences and if it was necessary to make a recommendation back to the State to change the formula.

Update on Focus Area

Client Retention – Gudrun stated CJRC looked at how the center could improve client retention. One proposal would be a review committee that would consist of: Dianne Smith from TASC, a Chief from Probation, and someone from CJRC. The committee would look at the termination cases and identify areas needing to be changed. The second proposal was a client exit interview with the graduates; they would be interviewed by the Director or the Deputy Director. The

questionnaire would include, how things went, what was helpful or not helpful to them, what impact CJRC had in helping them change, etc.

Substance Abuse Treatment / Screening – Gudrun stated the SA Treatment program looked at revamping the initial phase when someone came into treatment. They want to try and engage clients differently and work with them more closely when they first enter the program. The other change would be an incentive program for the clients. Robin explained how the incentive program would work and how clients would be rewarded for good behavior; an example would be a clean drug test or perfect attendance. They would be given tokens as a reward and could turn them in for prizes. County Commissioner Page suggested he may be able to help by donating some prizes. Lao suggested that Robin inform the board if they could help in any way. Gudrun stated she and Jo met with the Public Defenders office and a few issues came up that CJRC was not aware of. She explained that drug screens collected from clients by CJRC staff would go to the Greensboro lab for testing and then would be entered into probation's system. Some of the tests are conducted for treatment purposes and, according to the Public Defenders; some of those results are used by probation to violate individuals later on. Gudrun stated this was a conflict, when it comes to treatment. Conrad stated if testing was done for treatment purposes it was not to be used to violate a client. Gudrun stated CJRC could purchase instant hand held urine screens for \$3.25 each. She stated the screens would be used more so for SC clients than DRC clients. Conrad stated he would get more clarification on the policy and inform probation if the urine screens were done by CJRC than it was for treatment purposes only. Gudrun stated she would like to start in January. The board agreed and approved of the changes.

Public Relations – Lao, Marcia, and Gudrun met to discuss Public Relations ideas and how CJRC could increase the community's knowledge of the programs at CJRC. Lao suggested contacting and inviting Secretary Beck, the Secretary of NC of Corrections, to the CJRC to learn about the agency. She also stated they were working on a media plans.

Nomination of Officers – Deputy County Manager Carolyn Titus presented a slate of officers to the board. Recommended were Judge McKown for Chairperson, Chief Wes Crabtree for Vice Chairperson and Robin Odom for Secretary. Lao asked for nominations from the floor. Being none, the board voted unanimously for the presented slate of officers.

Announcements – Rob Robinson announced the Durham Center was revamping its Substance Abuse Treatment program. Staff reviewed the no show rate and identified a need to serve clients immediately and not a week later. Consumers can now come to Access the same day for a screening instead of making an appointment for the following week. Another option was for a screener to become mobile, so they could go to various places such as the jail to meet consumers.

Lao thanked members and visitors for attending and informed the board that the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 21st.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm